

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01

OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 /100 W

----- 052423

R 091100Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5540

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMCONSUL DOUALA BY POUCH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE YAOUNDE 1173

E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, EK

SUBJ: EQUATORIAL GUINEA - PETROLEUM EXPLORATION

REFS: A. DOUALA 122

B. DOUALA A-24 OF 10/8/74

C. YAOUNDE 1064

D. STATE 277172 OF 12/19/74

E. YAOUNDE A-108 OF 11/12/74

1. DURING BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH BILLET BROTHERS IN YAOUNDE MARCH 25, AMBASSADOR QUESTIONED THEM ABOUT VISIT OF SEISMIC VESSEL WHICH PRESIDENT MACIAS HAD ANNOUNCED LAST OCTOBER WAS BEING SENT BY ARACCA PETROLEUM FOR WORK IN EG WATERS (REF E, PARA 18).

2. BILLETS REPLIED THAT ARACCA HAD NOTHING IN WRITING FROM  
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MACIAS TO DEFINE THEIR EXPLORATION RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS.

WHILE THEY PERSONALLY HAVE A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH MACIAS AND KNOW THAT HIS VERBAL ASSURANCE IS AS VALID FROM A PRACTICAL STANDPOINT AS SOMETHING IN WRITING, THE CONSORTIUM GROUP WITH WHICH THEY ARE COLLABORATING IN OIL EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES IN WEST AFRICA ARE MORE CAUTIOUS. AS PUBLIC CORPORATIONS, THEY HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO SHAREHOLDERS AND HENCE HAVE BEEN UNWILLING TO COMMIT FUNDS FOR SEISMIC WORK UNTIL THEY HAVE A VALID DOCUMENT. BILLETS SAID THEY HAD SENT A PROPOSED AGREEMENT TO MACIAS SOME MONTHS AGO BUT THAT IT HAD NEVER BEEN SIGNED AND RETURNED TO THEM.

3. AMBASSADOR INQUIRED WHETHER THEY WERE PLANNING ON THIS TRIP TO VISIT EQUATORIAL GUINEA. THEY REPLIED THAT THEY WERE ON WAY TO SOUTH WEST AFRICA AND DOUBTED THEY WOULD HAVE TIME TO DO SO ON THIS TRIP. THEY WERE HOPING HOWEVER, TO CALL ON E.G. AMBASSADOR ESONO MICA IN YAOUNDE WITH WHOM THEY HAD A FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP DATING FROM THE LATTER'S TOUR IN NY AS UN REP.

4. E.G. AMBASSADOR SUBSEQUENTLY TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT HE HAD SEEN THE BILLETS WHO STATED THEY EXPECTED TO VISIT E.G. SOME TIME IN LATE APRIL. THEY HAD COMMENTED TO HIM THAT THEY HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH OTHER OIL COMPANIES IN U.S. (INCLUDING AMOCO) ABOUT OIL EXPLORATION IN E.G., BUT THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO INTEREST. ESONO MICA DID NOT TELL THEM OF DIRECT CONTACTS BETWEEN AMOCO AND GOEG.

5. COMMENT. BILLETS HAD TO BE PRODDED A BIT TO DISCUSS THEIR E.G. ACTIVITIES, OR LACK THEREOF. THEY MADE NO MENTION TO AMBASSADOR OF AMOCO AND WE CAN ONLY ASSUME THEY ARE AVOIDING E.G. BECAUSE OF THEIR INABILITY TO MAKE GOOD ON SENDING SEISMIC VESSEL. MAIN PURPOSE OF THEIR VISIT TO CAMEROON NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR. THEY RAISED IMMIGRATION PROBLEM WITH VICE CONSUL (REF C) AND PLANNED TO CALL ON MINISTRY MINES AND ENERGY BUT DID NOT CALL BACK AT EMBASSY TO REPORT.  
MOORE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPLORATION, PETROLEUM  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 17 JUN 2003  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EQUATORIAL GUINEA - PETROLEUM EXPLORATION  
**TAGS:** ENRG, EK, US, AMOCO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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